

REMARKS

Claims 5 and 23-27 (now claims 1-6) are pending in this application. By this Amendment, inventorship is corrected. No new matter is added by the above amendment.

I. Delete Inventor

The application currently lists Hideya Seki, Masatoshi Yonekubo, Daisuke Uchikawa, Shunji Kamijima and Takashi Takeda as the inventors. Applicants respectfully request that **Hideya Seki be deleted as an inventor** of the present application, for the reasons discussed below.

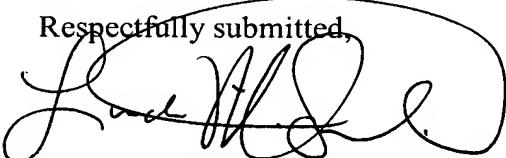
The present application was filed claiming priority to JP Patent Publication No. 2003-102870 (JP '870), whose inventor is Hideya Seki, and JP Patent Publication No. 2003-137527 (JP '527), whose inventors are Masatoshi Yonekubo, Daisuke Uchikawa, Shunji Kamijima and Takashi Takeda. Applicants respectfully submit that original claims 1-4 relate to JP '870 and original claims 5-9 relate to JP '527. In response to the October 20, 2005 Restriction Requirement, in a response filed on November 16, 2005 Applicants elected species III and indicated that at least claims 5-9 read on the elected species. Furthermore, in response to the January 31, 2006 Office Action, by an Amendment filed on June 30, 2006, claims 1-4 and 6-22 were cancelled. Thereafter, in an Amendment filed on December 28, 2006, claims 23-26 that include the subject matter of claims 6-9, were added in response to the August 28, 2006 Office Action. Furthermore, in an Amendment filed on October 31, 2007, claim 27 was added in response to the September 24, 2007 Office Action. Applicants respectfully submit that claim 27 corresponds to claim 24, written in independent form.

Moreover, final allowed claims 5 and 23-27 recite different subject matter from original claims 1-4. Therefore, Hideya Seki's contribution to the application is no longer claimed due to amendments and cancellation of the claims during prosecution of the present application.

II. Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. It is also respectfully submitted that this Amendment is in compliance with 37 C.F.R. §1.48(b). This Amendment correctly identifies Hideya Seki as the inventor being deleted and acknowledges that Hideya Seki's contribution is no longer being claimed in the present application.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,


James A. Oliff
Registration No. 27,075

Linda M. Saltiel
Registration No. 51,122

JAO:AAT/ccs

Attachment:

Petition to Correct Inventorship Transmittal

Date: April 7, 2008

OLIFF & BERRIDGE, PLC
P.O. Box 320850
Alexandria, Virginia 22320-4850
Telephone: (703) 836-6400

DEPOSIT ACCOUNT USE
AUTHORIZATION
Please grant any extension
necessary for entry;
Charge any fee due to our
Deposit Account No. 15-0461